

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGUI 00307 181820Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /067 W

-----181848 098405 /43

R 181343Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8278

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XJ, PORG, RW

SUBJECT: OCAM SUMMIT

REF: STATE 024382

1. SUMMARY: OCAM SECRETARY GENERAL MOUTIA HAS GIVEN US HIS ASSESSMENT OF RECENTLY CONCLUDED OCAM SUMMIT. BASICALLY MOUTIA (AND FOREIGN MINISTER MOKODOPO WHO ATTENDED AS PART OF GOCAE DELEGATION) ARE PLEASED WITH OVERALL RESULTS, PARTICULARLY DECISION TO OPEN OCAM'S SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO NON OCAM MEMBERS, AND WITH SENSE OF SOLIDARITY ACHIEVED. SECRETARIAT CONTINUES TO HAVE FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL PROBLEMS WHICH ARE TO BE INVESTIGATED. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WILL BE FOCUS OF FUTURE OCAM EFFORTS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, OCAM SECRETARY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGUI 00307 181820Z

GENERAL MOUTIA REVIEWED CURRENT SITUATION IN OCAM AND RESULTS OF KIGALI SUMMIT. MOUTIA SAID THAT SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT, WHICH HE HAD PRESENTED TO OCAM MINISTERS AND HEADS OF STATE, WAS BRUTALLY FRANK. SINCE HIS CONTACT HAD EXPIRED IN NOVEMBER, HE FELT ABLE TO STATE HONESTLY THE PROBLEMS FACED BY HIS SECRETARIAT. ESSENTIALLY THESE BOIL DOWN TO LACK OF STAFF (A THIRD OF ALL SENIOR POSITIONS ARE VACANT); LOW PAY (20 PER CENT LESS THAN AT NEIGHBORING UDEAC

SECRETARIAT) AND LOW QUALIFICATIONS OF SECRETARIATE PERSONNEL (VERY FEW HAVE DEGREES OR PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAS.) HIS REPORT ALSO DREQ ATTENTION TO THE FAILURE OF SOME MEMBERS TO PAY THEIR ASSESSED DUES WHICH ADDED TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE SECRETARIAT AND MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO MOVE AHEAD WITH MANY PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY OCAM HEADS OF STATE.

3. MOUTIA SAID HE WAS SHARPLY CRITICIZED AT KIGALI FOR HIS REPORT, WHICH IS PUBLIC DOCUMENT. MINISTER'S HOWEVER ACCEPTED FACT THAT SOMETHING NEEDED TO BE DONE, AND THREE-MAN COMMITTEE, AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, WOULD SHORTLY BE COMING TO BANGUI TO STUDY SECRETARIAT'S PROBLEMS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION. HOWEVER, DESPITE CRITICISM, MOUTIA WAS PLEASED THAT HE HAD BEEN RECONFIRMED FOR ADDITIONAL TWO YEARPERIOD AS SECRETARY GENERAL.

4. ON SUBSTANTIVE SIDE MOUTIA SAID MAJOR DECISION WAS TO MOVE AHEAD IN OPENING VARIOUS OCAM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO NON-MEMBER STATES. IN FACT FORMER OCAM MEMBERS HAD ALWAYS BEEN ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN SUBSIDIARY BODIES; NOW AGENCIES WERE BEING THROWN OPEN TO ALL AFRICAN STATES. HE ANTICIPATED THIS WOULD RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT STRENGTHENING OF THESE INSTITUTIONS. PROBLEM WHICH REMAINS TO BE SOLVED IS HOW THSE INSTITUTIONS ARE TO BE GOVERENED. TRADITIONALLY DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT OCAM HEADS OF STATE LEVEL AND IMPLEMENTED THROUGH SECRETARIAT. WITH ANTICIPATED INFLUX OF PARTICIPANTS, WHO DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO SECRETARIAT EXPENSES, NEW MECHANISM WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND SO THAT NON-OCAM MEMBERS PAID THEIR WAY. SPECIAL OCAM SUMMIT HAS BEEN CALLED IN DAKAR IN APRIL TO GO INTO THIS ISSUE. MOUTIA ANTICIPATES HEADS OF STATE WILL NOT WISH TO RELINQUISH POWER OVER THESE BODIES NOR ALLOW

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGUI 00307 181820Z

INDIVIDUAL COUNCILS OF ADMINISTRATION (AGENCY GOVERNING BODIES) TO BE GIVEN REAL POWER. SOME STATES HAVE SUGGESTED BOARDS. BUT MOUTIA WAS SKEPTICAL THIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE APPROVED.

4. MOUTIA CITED GROWING SENSE OF SOLIDARITY AMONG MEMBER STATES AS PRINCIPAL POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENT OF KIGALI SUMMIT. VIRTUALLY ALL OF OCAM'S MEMBERS WERE SMALL, WEAKER AFRICAN STATES.

THEY NEED MUTUAL SUPPORT. MOUTIA SAID BENIN'S COUP D'ETAT ATTEMPT HAD BEEN CATALYTIC FACTOR, WITH MINISTERS AND HEADS TF STATE AGREEING THAT WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN COTONOU COULD EASILY HAPPEN IN OTHER MEMBER STATES AS WELL. ALL WERE EQUALLY VULNERABLE. MOUTIA, V WHO HAD VISITED COTONOU AT KEREKOU'S INVATION, WAS IMPRESSED WITH EXTENT OF DAMAGES AND EASE WITH WHICH MERCENARIES HAD BEEN ABLE TO REACH BENIN, AND OBVIOUSLY PASSED THIS VIEW ON TO KIGALI PARTICIPANTS.

5. WITH REGARD TO FUTURE MEMBESHIP OF OCAM, MOUTIA

SAID NO FURTHER DEFECTIONS WERE ANTICIPATED. INDEED WITH ADDITION OF THE SEYCHELLES, HE THOUGH TIDE MIGHT HAVE TURNED IN OCAM'S FAVOR; IT WAS POSSIBLE BURUNDI, THE COMORO ISLANDS AND DJIBOUTI MIGHT ULTIMATELY JOIN.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE OPTIMISM DISPLAYED BY MOUTIA AND CENTRAL AFRICANS WE REMAIN SCEPTICAL ABTUT THE LONG-TERM FUTURE OF OCAM. ITS HETEROGENEITY CREATES PROBLEMS FOR ITS MEMBERS, WHO HAVE FEW COMMON INTERESTS, AND SEVERAL IMPORTANT ONES HAVE WITHDRAWN. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, HOWEVER, WHICH IN MANY CASE ARE THE ONLY ONES OF THEIR KIND IN AFRICA, SEEM TO MEET REAL NEEDAND ARE LIKELY TO SURVIVE. SECRETARIAT SEES AS ITS PRINCIPAL CONCERN THE VIABILITY OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND IT IS TO THAT END THAT MOUTIA AND HIS COLLEAGUES WILL BE WORKING IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS. QUANTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGUI00307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770059-0086
Format: TEL
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770229/aaaaazhe.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5bad7cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 24382
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3286385
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OCAM SUMMIT
TAGS: PORG, XJ, RW, OCAM, (MOUTIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5bad7cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009